

Myanmar's Independence Day

Press Statement
John Kerry
Secretary of State
Washington, DC
January 2, 2015

On behalf of President Obama and the people of the United States, I would like to congratulate the people of Myanmar as you celebrate the 67th anniversary of your nation's independence.

This day is an appropriate moment to reiterate America's commitment to supporting your country as you continue down the path of reform towards a modern, democratic, peaceful, and economically vibrant nation. It is my sincere hope that in the future together we can celebrate the fulfillment of all of your aspirations.

During my visit last August, I was struck by how much had changed since my first trip to your country fifteen years ago when I was still a United States Senator. It was affirming to see firsthand the deepening diplomatic, economic and cultural relationships between our two nations which some had once deemed impossible. The journey traveled thus far is itself the best evidence of how far we can travel together in the next journey going forward. I look forward to working with you to see those ties grow as Myanmar continues to open to the world.

Please accept the best wishes of the American people for a happy Independence Day.

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